

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 14348 281002Z

43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 EB-11 /106 W

----- 107924

R 280823Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0054

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC 280823Z

UNCLAS MANILA 14348

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, RP, JA

SUBJ: RATIFICATION OF RP-JAPAN TREATY

REF: MANILA 14262

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. RATIFICATION OF RP-JAPAN TREATY OF AMITY, COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION WAS COMPLETED DEC. 27 IN CEREMONY AT DFA DURING WHICH FORMAL INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION WERE EXCHANGED BY FONSEC ROMULO AND AMBASSADOR URABE. ROMULO ANNOUNCED HITHERTO UNREVEALED FACT THAT PRESIDENT MARCOS HAD RATIFIED TREATY ON DECEMBER 21, THREE DAYS BEFORE JAPANESE CABINET ARJION REPORTED REFTEL. TREATY WILL ENTER INTO FORCE 1/27/74.

2. AS EXPECTED (REFTEL) ROMULO TRANSMITTED NOTE TO URABE CONCERNING NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS TO THE TREATY
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PAGE 02 MANILA 14348 281002Z

"IN CASE THE PHILIPPINES BECOMES A MEMBER OF A CUSTOMS

UNION OR A FREE TRADE AREA, SUCH AS CONTEMPLATED BY ASEAN..." TEXTS OF NOTE AND DFA PRESS RELEASES ON RATIFICATION BEING POUCHED DEPT AND EMBASSY TOKYO.

3. REMARKS MADAXBY ROMULO AFTER CEREMONY REFERRED TO DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN A NUMBER OF GOP CABINET OFFICIALS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS OF JAPANESE EMBASSY CONCERNING RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY. HE ALLUDED TO QUESTIONS WHICH HAD BEEN RAISED ON PHILIPPINE SIDE ABOUT THE TREATY, NOTING THAT DPROPOSALS HAVE BEEN ADVANCED AND MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN WITH A VIEW TO WORKING OUT AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION." HE ADDED WITHOUT ELABORATION CONCERNING "SAFEGUARDS" (I.E. FOR DOMESTIC INDUSTRY AND TRADE) THAT "APPROPRIATE SAFEGUARDS HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN THE FORM OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREES, AND OTHER LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS." HE CONCLUDED WITH EXPRESSION OF HOPE THAT THE TREATY RATIFICATION WILL USHER IN AN ERA OF CLOSER COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP FOR THE TWO COUNTRIES' MUTUAL ADVANCEMENT AND PROSPERITY.

4. AMBASSADOR URABE NOTED HISTORY OF DIFFICULTIES TREATY HAD ENCOUNTERED IN PHILIPPINES, OBSERVING THAT FAILURE OF ITS RATIFICATION "HAS ALWAYS BEEN A SHADOW UPON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS, BECAUSE SUCH A FAILURE TENDS TO GERMINATE VARIOUS KINDS OF MISTRUST." HE PAID TRIBUTE TO STATESMANSHIP OF PRESIDENT MARCOS AND HIS AIDES FOR NOW HAVING TURNED "A NEW PAGE IN THE HISTORY OF OUR RELATIONS." HE EXPRESSED CONVICTION THAT THE TREATY WILL CONTRIBUTE TO STRENGTHENING COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN TWO NATIONS, BUT OBSERVED THAT BOTH SIDES MUST CONTINUE EFFORTS TO PROMOTE FRIENDSHIP

AND "TRY TO ACHIEVE MORE THAN WHAT THE TREATY PROVIDES."

5. RATIFICATION CEREMONY WAS PRECEDED BY EXCHANGE OF NOTES PROVIDING JAPANESE LOAN OF 4.7 UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 MANILA 14348 281002Z

BILLION YEN (APPROX \$17 MILLION) COVERING PNR COMMUTER SERVICE AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS. ROMULO NOTED THAT LOAN HAD BEEN NEGOTIATED SOME TIME BEFORE, HAD NO CONNECTION WITH TREATY RATIFICATION. SULLIVAN

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